

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph on page 38, lines 13-24, with the following amended paragraph:

As such a water-extracting agent, it is preferable to use a liquid agent which uniformly mixes with an electrolyte solution and with which the inside of an interior electrode body is impregnated uniformly. Water-extracting agents capable of being used in the present invention are specifically organic phosphorus compounds and amine compounds. In the case that an organic phosphorus compound is used, the compound ~~may have~~ has a P=O linkage. Such a compound is exemplified by phosphates such as trimethylphosphate, tri-2-propylphosphate, tributylphosphate, tetraisopropylethylenephosphonate, and phosphineoxides such as tributylphosphineoxide, trioctylphosphineoxide, and triphenylphosphineoxide.